

CITY OF MUSKEGON
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
MINUTES

July 2, 2019

Chairperson J. Hilt called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and roll was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: J. Hilt, K. George, K. Panozzo, A. Riegler, D. Warren

MEMBERS ABSENT: S. Radtke, L. Wood

STAFF PRESENT: J. Pesch, D. Renkenberger

OTHERS PRESENT: H. Morey, 234 Houston Ave; T. Montgomery, 1413 Jefferson St; J. Dyer, 41 Irwin Ave; D. Marsh, 1468 Clinton St.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 4, 2019, was made by K. Panozzo, supported by A. Riegler and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Case 2019-12 – 234 Houston Ave (Windows). Applicant: Heidi and Jason Morey. District: Houston. Current Function: Residential. J. Pesch presented the staff report. The applicant is seeking approval to replace two wood windows with vinyl windows. The two windows, which are located on the second floor above the front porch, were recently damaged by a fallen tree.

H. Morey stated that they had obtained quotes for window replacement and were looking at vinyl replacement windows that may be a little shorter than the windows currently in place. She stated that stock windows did not come in that size. K. Panozzo pointed out that, according to HDC standards, window openings could not be altered. J. Hilt stated that they should look for replacement windows that were the same size as those being replaced. A. Riegler stated that she was not opposed to vinyl replacement windows in this case, as they were plain double hung style, but she did not want to see the size changed, as the standards were very clear on that.

A motion that the HDC approve the request to replace the two damaged, wood windows located on the second floor above the front porch with vinyl windows of the same size as the current windows within ¼ inch, as long as the work meets all zoning requirements and the necessary permits are obtained, was made by A. Riegler, supported by K. Panozzo and unanimously approved, with J. Hilt, K. George, K. Panozzo, A. Riegler, and D. Warren voting aye. K. George asked H. Morey if they planned to use standard white vinyl; H. Morey stated that was correct.

Case 2019-13 – 1413 Jefferson St (Fence). Applicant: Tracy Montgomery. District: Campus. Current Function: Residential. J. Pesch presented the staff report. The applicant is seeking approval to construct a six-foot tall privacy fence in the backyard of the property as well as four-foot tall open fencing along the sides and front of the property.

T. Montgomery provided photos of the proposed fence. The 6-foot fence in the rear would be treated wood, and the front fence would be decorative black wrought-iron style. A. Riegler asked if they were going to paint the wood fence. T. Montgomery stated that they were. K. George suggested that they stain the wood in order to help preserve it. A. Riegler suggested that they could also consider black chain-link fence for the back, as that may blend in better.

A motion that the HDC approve the request to construct a six-foot tall wood or black chain link fence in the back yard of the property, and four-foot tall decorative black wrought-iron style fencing along the sides and front of the property, as long as the work meets all zoning requirements and the necessary permits are obtained, and allowing staff to approved the final style of fence based on the discussion at the meeting, was made by K. Panozzo, supported by J. Hilt and unanimously approved, with J. Hilt, K. George, K. Panozzo, A. Riegler, and D. Warren voting aye.

There were two walk-on cases that staff allowed, since both were simple requests to install fences.

Case #2019-14 - 41 Irwin Ave (Fence). Applicant: Jenee Dyer. District: McLaughlin. Current Function: Residential. J. Pesch provided pictures of the property to board members. J. Dyer explained that she would like to install a 4-foot wooden fence with a curved top around the front yard and a 6-foot wooden dog-eared fence around the back. K. George asked if the bushes in the photo would remain. J. Dyer stated that they would; she planned to erect the fence on the inside of the bushes.

A motion that the HDC approve the request to install a six-foot tall wood privacy fence around the back yard and a four-foot wooden picked fence with a curved top around the front and side yards, as long as the work meets all zoning requirements and the necessary permits are obtained, was made by D. Warren, supported by A. Riegler and unanimously approved, with J. Hilt, K. George, K. Panozzo, A. Riegler, and D. Warren voting aye.

Case #2019-15 – 72 E Grand Ave (Fence). Applicant: Donald Marsh District: Clinton-Peck. Current Function: Residential. D. Marsh stated that house next door to him on the east side sat very close to his property line, and he would like to place a fence between the houses. He discussed some different options with staff and board members. Board members concurred that they would allow staff to approve the style of fence once the applicant decided what he wanted.

A motion that the HDC approve the request to install a fence along the east side yard of 72 E Grand Ave and to allow staff to approve the style of fence as long as the work meets all zoning requirements and the necessary permits are obtained, was made by J. Hilt, supported by K. Panozzo and unanimously approved, with J. Hilt, K. George, K. Panozzo, A. Riegler, and D. Warren voting aye.

OLD BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

HDC Local Standards Draft – J. Pesch stated that he would send out a draft of the revised standards to the board members so that they could review it prior to the next meeting. He would then request a vote to approve all revisions.

Window Repair Workshop – J. Pesch informed board members about a workshop on restoring wood windows to be held at the Hackley and Hume Historic Site on Saturday, July 13th from 9:00am to 1:00pm. The workshop will be hosted by Mat Moore, Preservation Manager for the site.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.